

1 **Amendment to the Claims**

2 **In the Claims:**

3 Please amend Claims 1, 2, 10, 11, and 16 as follows:

4 1. (Currently Amended) A method for creating a timed reminder linked to a document,
5 comprising the steps of:

6 opening a document in an application program;

7 indicating that the document is to be accessed at a later date;

8 in response to indicating that the document is to be accessed at a later date, from
9 within one of an application suite comprising the application program and a user interface, creating a
10 reminder having a date field, a time field, and a document field, creation of the reminder occurring in
11 a seamless manner without requiring a user to manually access a different application program in
12 order to create the reminder;

13 the step of creating the reminder comprising the step of enabling a user to:

14 setting a date in the date field for accessing the document;

15 setting enter a time in the time field for accessing the document; and

16 setting the name of the document in the document field; and

17 storing the reminder in a shared database that supports timed reminders linked to
18 documents associated with a plurality of application programs.

19 2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the document is a
20 word[-]processor compatible file.

21 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the document is a spreadsheet.

22 4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the document is a graphical file.

23 5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the document is a computer-executable file
24 other than an electronic mail message.

25 6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the application program is chosen from the
26 group consisting of a word processor, a spreadsheet application, and a graphics application.

27 7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the document is of a type not associated with
28 the application program.

29 8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
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1 at the date and time specified in the date field and time field, retrieving the reminder
2 from the database; and

3 displaying the reminder along with the name of the associated document.

4 9. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium storing instructions which, when
5 executed, perform the steps of claim 8.

6 10. (Currently Amended) A method for displaying a document associated with a scheduled
7 reminder, comprising the steps of:

8 automatically determining whether an application capable of polling a database is
9 active, and if so;

10 automatically polling a the database from a first application;
11 determining whether a reminder is present in the database with a time field matching
12 the current time and a date field matching the current date;

13 in response to determining that a reminder is present in the database with a time field
14 matching the current time and a date field matching the current date, retrieving the reminder;

15 displaying the reminder on a display screen;

16 retrieving a document associated with the reminder; and

17 displaying the associated document in a second application.

18 11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, further comprising the steps of:

19 ~~determining whether an application capable of polling the database is active;~~

20 in the event that an application capable of polling the database is not active,
21 automatically activating a background program dedicated to polling the database; and

22 setting the background program as the active application.

23 12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising the steps of:

24 determining that the associated document is incompatible with the active application;

25 in response to determining that the associated document is incompatible with the
26 second application, activating a third application capable of displaying the associated document; and

27 displaying the associated document in the third application.

28 13. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium storing instructions which, when
29 executed, perform the steps of claim 12.

30 14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, further comprising the steps of:

1 determining that the reminder has been designated as auto-updating;
2 in response to determining that the reminder has been designated as auto-updating,
3 initiating a series of changes to the document;
4 storing the document;
5 incrementing the time field and date field of the reminder by a set amount; and
6 storing the incremented reminder in the database.

7 15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, further comprising the steps of:
8 determining that the associated document is a hyperlink to a web page; and
9 displaying the web page in a web browser.

10 16. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for providing a timed reminder
11 and associated file to a user, comprising the steps of:

12 creating a timed reminder having a time entry and date entry;
13 adding an associated file name to the timed reminder;
14 storing the timed reminder in a shared database;
15 automatically determining whether a checking application is active without
16 intervention by a user;

17 in response to determining that a checking application is active, periodically
18 comparing the current time and date with the time entry and the date entry;

19 in the event that the current time and date match the time entry and date entry,
20 retrieving the timed reminder; and

21 displaying the timed reminder and the associated file name on a display screen;
22 otherwise, automatically activating a background checking program without
23 intervention by the user;

24 periodically comparing the current time and date with the time entry and the date
25 entry;

26 in the event that the current time and date match the time entry and date entry,
27 retrieving the timed reminder; and

28 displaying the timed reminder and the associated file name on a display screen.

29 17. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium storing instructions which, when
30 executed, performs the steps of claim 16.

1 18. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the shared database supports timed
2 reminders linked to documents associated with a plurality of application programs and may be
3 accessed by more than one application.
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